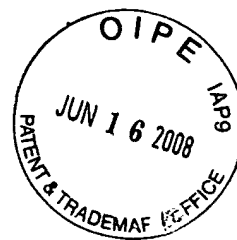


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Ozaki et al. Serial Number: 10/580,920  
371 Filing: 22 February 2007 International App.: PCT/JP2004/015586  
International Filing: 21 October 2004 Group Art Unit: 3611  
Examiner: Unknown Confirmation No.: 9234  
Title: **Steering Handle And Steering System**



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER MPEP §609**

Commissioner For Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, §1.97, §1.98, and MPEP §609, applicant encloses a copy of the reference listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A for consideration by the Examiner. The reference is cited/discussed in the enclosed Japanese Office Action dated 14 May 2008, issued in the corresponding Japanese Patent application.

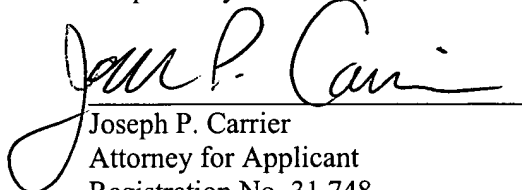
Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

The listed reference is being cited only in the interests of candor and without any admission that it constitutes statutory prior art or contains matter which anticipates the present invention or which would render the same obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

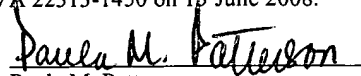
Respectfully submitted,

  
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13 June 2008

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner For Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 13 June 2008.

Dated: 13 June 2008  
JPC/pmp  
Enclosures

  
Paula M. Patterson